

**Montana ExpoPark  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, August 23, 2017**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Jim Sargent, Kelly Manzer, John Hayes, Leanne Hall, Randy Bogden, and Travis McConville

**Members Not Present:** Kelly Audet

**Staff Present:** Susan Shannon, and Kim Lander

Board Chairman Jim Sargent called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm in the Gold Buckle Room.

**June 2017 Minutes:** Randy Bogden made a motion to approve the minutes, and seconded by Travis McConville. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Randy Bogden made a motion to approve the minutes, and seconded by Travis McConville. Motion carried.

**A. Public Comments**

**A. Agenda items** – None.

**B. Non-agenda items** – None.

**B. Committee Reports**

**A. Livestock** – Randy Bogden reported the Jr. Livestock show could have used some better numbers. Mike Vanek is doing a great job as Superintendent and growing the show each year. Montana ExpoPark clerked the sale and the system was better than years past. Some new members have reached out to be on the Jr. Livestock committee. Susan Shannon thanked Randy Bogden for his contributions of buy backs.

**B. Entertainment** – Travis McConville was asked about moving the 3 Rivers Stage entertainment to the Grandstands. Open dialogue about prior years when there was entertainment in the Grandstands.

**C. Events & Promotions** – Jim Sargent thought everything went well at fair.

**D. Long Range Planning** – None.

**C. Financial Report** – Susan Shannon reported on handouts to include budget performance report, events report, and upcoming public events. Open dialogue about fair expenses and will have more information at the September Advisory Board meeting.

**A. Reports – Fair Recap** – Jim Sargent asked for feedback from the Advisory Board. John Hayes reported the Great Falls Turf Club is in the process of compiling information to compare to last year's races. John Hayes penciled a \$15-\$20K loss for Friday night races and would be interested if Cascade County would supplement more money than the \$12,500 for Friday night race addition. Open dialogue about start time for Friday night races, horses running in the heat, and too many races. Travis McConville reported not many complaints and fair goers were very happy about having a rock night show. Kelly Manzer reported she did not have an opportunity to get to everything the fair has to offer, and doesn't know how can people say there is not

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anything at the fair. Susan Shannon suggested using audio/video sound bites from multiple sources to promote the fair on social media, the website, and other mediums.

**B. Other** – Susan Shannon requested dates and times for the Advisory Board and Cascade County Commission board retreat and fair retreat. October 17, 2017 from 9:30am to 1:30pm was discussed for the board retreat and September 13, 2017 from 9:30am to 1:30pm for the fair retreat. Susan Shannon will confirm date and times with Mark Wilmarth and the Cascade County Commission. Jim Sargent will follow up with the Advisory Board.

**D. Unfinished Business**

**A. Set 501 C3 discussion meeting**– Jim Sargent requested feedback from the Advisory Board if they will be implementing a 501 C3 board. John Hayes suggested finalize all the paperwork, submit names to Jim Sargent, and ask Cascade County Commission for start-up monies. Seven officers needed for the paperwork. Jim Sargent will submit names to the Cascade County Commission for approval.

**New Business**

**A. Doggie waste stations in the park areas to help alleviate excess excrement on the grounds. Hand sanitizing stations (possibly from the state** – Jim Sargent opened the floor for discussion on the third priority of the Advisory Board wish list. Open dialogue about how much dog waste, who cleans up, etc. Check into cost and explore how to maintain the stations. Kelly Manzer will check on dog stations and hand sanitizing stations.

**B. Any other** – None.

**Commissionaire Report/Comments:** None.

**Announcements**

**Next Meeting:** September 27, 2017 at 12:30pm in the Gold Buckle Room.

It was moved by John Hayes and seconded by Randy Bogden to adjourn the meeting at 1:31pm. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved:

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Director of Montana ExpoPark

\_\_\_\_\_

Board Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Lander  
9/1/17